

Other Presidential Documents

Notice of March 11, 2009

Continuation of the National Emergency With Respect to Iran

On March 15, 1995, by Executive Order 12957, the President declared a national emergency with respect to Iran pursuant to the International Emergency Economic Powers Act (50 U.S.C. 1701–1706) to deal with the unusual and extraordinary threat to the national security, foreign policy, and economy of the United States constituted by the actions and policies of the Government of Iran. On May 6, 1995, the President issued Executive Order 12959 imposing more comprehensive sanctions to further respond to this threat, and on August 19, 1997, the President issued Executive Order 13059 consolidating and clarifying the previous orders.

Because the actions and policies of the Government of Iran continue to pose an unusual and extraordinary threat to the national security, foreign policy, and economy of the United States, the national emergency declared on March 15, 1995, must continue in effect beyond March 15, 2009. Therefore, in accordance with section 202(d) of the National Emergencies Act (50 U.S.C. 1622(d)), I am continuing for 1 year the national emergency with respect to Iran. Because the emergency declared by Executive Order 12957 constitutes an emergency separate from that declared on November 14, 1979, by Executive Order 12170, this renewal is distinct from the emergency renewal of November 2008. This notice shall be published in the *Federal Register* and transmitted to the Congress.

BARACK OBAMA

THE WHITE HOUSE,
March 11, 2009.

Memorandum of March 20, 2009

Ensuring Responsible Spending of Recovery Act Funds

Memorandum for the Heads of Executive Departments and Agencies

My Administration is committed to ensuring that public funds are expended responsibly and in a transparent manner. Last month, I signed into law the “American Recovery and Reinvestment Act of 2009,” Public Law 111–5 (the “Recovery Act” or “Act”), an investment package designed to provide a necessary boost to our economy in these difficult times and to create jobs, restore economic growth, and strengthen America’s middle class. The Recovery Act is designed to stimulate the economy through measures that, among other things, modernize the Nation’s infrastructure, jump start American energy independence, expand high-quality educational opportunities, preserve and improve access to affordable health care, provide middle-class tax relief, and protect those in greatest need. It is not intended to fund projects for special interests.

In implementing the Recovery Act, we have undertaken unprecedented efforts to ensure the responsible distribution of funds for the Act’s purposes and to provide public transparency and accountability of expenditures. We